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Policy directives to the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and strengthening the drug programme and the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as its governing body, including administrative, budgetary and strategic management questions

Implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem: follow-up to the high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in view of the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016

Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice
Twenty-fifth session
Vienna, 23-27 May 2016
Items 3 and 7 of the provisional agenda**
Strategic management, budgetary and administrative questions

World crime trends and emerging issues and responses in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice

Activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Report of the Executive Director

Summary

The present report outlines the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime conducted during 2015. It further contains a set of recommendations for consideration by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

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I. Introduction

1. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) addresses the main challenges relating to drugs and crime that the world is facing today. The present report provides an overview of the key activities implemented by UNODC in 2015. Section II of this report contains information on the strategic orientation and the main achievements of the Office, as well as on other policy developments and inter-agency cooperation. Section III focuses on progress made by the Office in the implementation of mandates relating to the world drug problem, including drug use prevention, treatment and reintegration, including prevention and treatment of drug use-related transmission of HIV/AIDS; drug supply reduction; and alternative development. Section III also contains information on the implementation by the Office of mandates relating to countering transnational organized crime; countering corruption; terrorism prevention; crime prevention and criminal justice; and research, trend analysis and scientific and forensic support. Section IV provides an overview of measures taken to strengthen UNODC, including strategic planning, evaluation and fundraising efforts. A number of recommendations are contained in section V for consideration by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

II. Strategic orientation

2. The actions of the Office have been guided by its strategic framework for the period 2014-2015 and its integrated programme approach, through which UNODC implements programmes at the national, regional and global levels.

3. On 25 September 2015, the General Assembly adopted resolution 70/1, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", which sets out 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 169 targets. In particular, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development affirms that "there can be no sustainable development without peace and no peace without sustainable development". The importance of addressing matters of international drug control and of crime prevention and criminal justice is recognized in the new Agenda, including, inter alia, target 3.5 (Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse) and Goal 16, which encompasses the promotion of the rule of law at the national and international levels and combating organized crime, human trafficking, corruption and terrorism as key elements for ensuring people's well-being and essential for securing sustainable and inclusive development.

4. In 2015, UNODC contributed substantially to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which promotes access to justice and the rule of law, building on all of its mandates and expertise in the areas of crime prevention and criminal justice. UNODC was an integral part of the United Nations system technical support team assisting the Open Working Group of the General Assembly on the Sustainable Development Goals and co-chaired the team dealing with Goal 16, on peaceful and inclusive societies, access to justice for all and effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. The Office was also an active participant in discussions in the context of the Expert Group on Sustainable Development Indicators and is

preparing to help Member States monitor and track progress in achieving relevant targets with a view to fostering transformative change.

5. UNODC also supported the substantive and organizational arrangements for and the conduct of the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in Doha, at which the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation was adopted. The Thirteenth Congress represented a milestone in the 60 years of crime congresses. For the first time, more than 4,000 participants from 149 countries attended the Congress, including Member States, key decision makers, members of academia and civil society leaders. Nearly 200 high-level events and ancillary meetings were held, and for the first time, a Youth Forum was organized prior to the Congress.

6. UNODC supported global efforts to address the challenges to health, development and security posed by illicit drugs, including by facilitating open, inclusive discussions in the run-up to the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016. In accordance with Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolutions 57/5 and 58/8, the Office continued to support the substantive and organizational preparations of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs for the special session. Targeted briefings and special events were organized to assist Member States in the preparations for the special session. The Office maintains a website dedicated to the preparations of the Commission that serves as an information hub for Member States and as a platform for the inputs of all stakeholders (www.ungass2016.org).

7. A key achievement of the Office was the successful conclusion of the UNODC-supported process of revising the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, which were adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/175 as the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners ("the Nelson Mandela Rules").

8. With regard to new technical cooperation initiatives, in 2015, UNODC launched a new regional programme for Central Asia and two "second generation" country programmes, for Afghanistan and Iran (Islamic Republic of).

9. To strengthen cooperation at the regional level, UNODC offices in West and Central Asia developed a joint action plan for an interregional drug control approach and a pilot harmonized programme for West and Central Asia.

10. In South-East Asia and the Pacific, the focus was on improving border controls through initiatives such as the border liaison office mechanism, the UNODC-World Customs Organization (WCO) Container Control Programme's joint port control units and port intelligence units aimed at detecting migrant smuggling. In 2015, UNODC facilitated two major regional conferences to discuss responses to the foreign terrorist fighters phenomenon, bringing together experts and criminal justice professionals from the region. In South Asia, UNODC supported the establishment of the proposed South Asian regional information and coordination centre to strengthen cooperation in criminal matters related to drug trafficking.

11. At the interregional level, UNODC supported the establishment of real-time operational communication between international airports in Africa and Latin

America and the Caribbean. A new initiative will link Latin America, the Caribbean and West Africa to support interregional criminal justice and law enforcement capacities along the cocaine trafficking route.

12. In West Africa, UNODC supported the implementation of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Regional Action Plan to Address the Growing Problem of Illicit Drug Trafficking, Organized Crime and Drug Abuse in West Africa through a new technical cooperation project in the region. In response to the growing security and humanitarian concerns in West and Central Africa, UNODC developed a regional strategy for combating trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants (2015-2020), covering 22 countries.

13. Ongoing cooperation between UNODC and Governments in Southern Africa to counter human trafficking resulted in a number of key achievements in 2015, including the launch of the anti-human trafficking standard operating procedures in Seychelles, the finalization of a national plan of action for Zimbabwe and the launch of the victim identification guidelines and victim referral mechanism in Namibia.

14. In Peru, UNODC launched a new four-year alternative development programme, and in Mexico, in the context of the Merida Initiative, UNODC developed a new programme for preventing and combating the smuggling of migrants in partnership with the Attorney General's Office. A new technical cooperation project was launched in the Plurinational State of Bolivia to support the implementation of the Action Plan for the Strategy for the Fight against Drug Trafficking and Reduction of Surplus of Coca Cultivation.

15. UNODC is providing technical assistance to upgrade the capacity of competent authorities in Central America to respond to challenges of cybercrime and crimes committed via the Internet against children and the gathering of digital evidence.

16. UNODC carries out its activities in cooperation with other departments and offices of the Secretariat and entities of the United Nations system, in particular the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), the International Labour Organization, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Bank, as well as the secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.

17. The Office also works in close cooperation with other international organizations, such as the African Union, the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, ECOWAS, the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction, the European Union, the Inter-American Development Bank, the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission of the Organization of American States, the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), the League of Arab States, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Organization of American States, the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, the Southern African Development Community and WCO, as well as with members of the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network and other relevant

intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. UNODC also cooperates closely with United Nations partners in the United Nations Development Group regional teams, United Nations country teams and in the "Delivering as one United Nations" initiative.

18. UNODC continued to promote coherence of United Nations initiatives on the rule of law by participating in the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group and by providing expertise and support to UNDP and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat in their role as global focal point for the police, justice and corrections areas of the rule of law in post-conflict and other crisis situations.

III. Progress made by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in implementing its mandates in thematic areas

A. Taking a balanced approach to the world drug problem

1. Prevention, treatment and reintegration

(a) Prevention, treatment and reintegration

19. UNODC continued its collaboration with WHO to strengthen services for the treatment, care and recovery of people suffering from drug dependence, as well as of children exposed to drugs at a very young age. These services based on scientific evidence and ethical standards are offered in 23 countries. In 2015, UNODC finalized the international standards on the treatment of drug use disorders.[1]

20. UNODC continued to facilitate the planning of improved national drug prevention systems on the basis of the International Standards on Drug Use Prevention in six additional countries and trained policymakers in 20 countries on how to evaluate drug prevention programmes.

21. Drug prevention programmes in 17 countries reported statistically significant results in improving the behaviour of children with respect to drug use by preventing the initiation of drug use through the implementation of evidence-based programmes for families and in schools.

22. The UNODC Youth Initiative mobilized young people in more than 100 countries through social media and grants from the Drug Abuse Prevention Centre of Japan.

23. Through its country and regional programmes, UNODC supported drug prevention and drug dependence treatment in more than 50 countries, most significantly in Afghanistan and neighbouring countries, Nigeria and the countries of the Andean region.

24. Additionally, the Office continued to promote access to controlled medications, while preventing their diversion and abuse in Ghana and Timor-Leste in collaboration with the WHO Department of Essential Medicines and Health Products and the Union for International Cancer Control.

[1] The international standards on the treatment of drug use disorders will be distributed in a conference room paper at the fifty-ninth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

(b) HIV prevention, treatment and care

25. UNODC supported the rapid scaling-up of the delivery of HIV prevention, treatment and care services, including advocacy, technical assistance and capacity-building, in 24 high-priority countries in order to support reaching the target contained in the 2011 Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS: Intensifying Our Efforts to Eliminate HIV and AIDS of reducing transmission of HIV among people who inject drugs by 50 per cent by 2015 (also referred to in Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 56/6).

26. UNODC contributed to the development of the UNAIDS 2016-2021 Strategy for fast-tracking HIV/AIDS responses and ending the AIDS epidemic as a public health threat by 2030 by promoting human rights, public health, justice and equality of access to HIV services for people who use drugs and people in prisons.

27. UNODC supported the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in the process of preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem by organizing seven regional dialogues on drug policy and HIV, engaging national policymakers, drug control agencies and civil society, including people who use drugs, in an evidence-informed dialogue on HIV, drug policies and human rights.

28. UNODC trained law enforcement agencies and strengthened their partnerships with civil society organizations in HIV prevention in nine countries in Eastern Europe, Central and South Asia, and North Africa and the Middle East. In cooperation with the International Network of People who Use Drugs, UNODC developed guidance on gender-responsive HIV services for women who inject drugs, and, jointly with the World Bank, reviewed the quality of estimates of the number of people who inject drugs in 10 countries.

2. Drug supply reduction and countering drug trafficking

29. Through its global and regional programmes, UNODC provided support to interregional drug control collaboration in areas affected by illicit trafficking in drugs originating in Central Asia, Latin America and South-East Asia. The programmes fostered effective inter-agency and cross-border cooperation in criminal matters and directed action against drug-related financial flows and money-laundering.

30. UNODC provided technical support to improve border management through the joint UNODC/WCO Container Control Programme, an initiative that is yielding significant results for the 28 participating States. Since its commencement, the national units of the Container Control Programme have intercepted more than 120 tons of cocaine, 3 tons of heroin, 62 tons of cannabis and 1,300 tons of precursor chemicals. The goal of the Programme is to support participating States in making the best use of existing professional resources in their customs, police and other agencies to improve trade security and border controls. Funding is in place to expand the Programme to another 25 countries. In partnership with WCO and the International Civil Aviation Organization, UNODC will offer similar support for air freight management following the conclusion of a pilot air cargo programme in Pakistan.

31. In response to the need to counter transnational organized crime through concerted efforts at the regional and interregional levels, UNODC has developed a new Global Programme on Building Effective Networks against Organized Crime. The Programme includes the UNODC "networking the networks" initiative. It also includes an initiative on the networking of law enforcement training institutions (Law Enforcement TrainNet) aimed at improving coordination and cooperation between law enforcement training/educational institutions through the exchange of best practices and lessons learned, as well as the exchange of training curricula, training materials, training methodologies and trainers.

32. The "networking the networks" initiative continues to build links between existing regional platforms and promote the exchange and sharing of criminal intelligence. The Global Programme now supports the work of financial intelligence unit networks and asset recovery networks targeting illicit financial flows originating in organized crime and all forms of trafficking. In addition, networking activities are focusing on connections between law enforcement training institutions in order to identify centres of specific expertise, build synergies in regional cooperation and encourage common benchmarked standards in law enforcement.

3. Sustainable livelihoods and alternative development

33. Member States and UNODC continued to work towards sustainably reducing the illicit cultivation of opium poppy and coca bush. Although alternative development continues to be recognized as a principal pillar of the international drug control strategy, the importance of establishing long-term legitimate income-earning opportunities within a comprehensive development strategy is understood to be as important as eradicating crops. UNODC utilizes this approach in its expanded alternative development programme in Myanmar and its ongoing programmes in the Andean region. The General Assembly's adoption of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development in its resolution 68/196 was a milestone as it contributed to a growing body of best practices that Member States can use to design, implement and evaluate alternative development interventions. To facilitate the implementation and understanding of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development, UNODC supported the Government of Thailand in hosting the Second International Seminar Workshop and Conference on Alternative Development held on 19-24 November 2015. At the Conference, participants identified new approaches and strategies to design interventions and clearly defined the links between alternative development and the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

4. Research, trend analysis and scientific and forensic support

34. The UNODC drug control programme provides data, analysis and forensic services to inf rm policymaking in that area at both the national and international levels. Some UNODC flagship publications, such as the *World Drug Report*, relate to the drug control programme. More information on drug-related research and analysis of the Office is available in section F, below.

35. Many elements described in section B, below, on countering transnational organized crime, also contribute to the effectiveness and comprehensiveness of the drug control programme due to the interlinked nature of the subject matter (e.g., the

fight against money-laundering and terrorism, the countering of corruption and border management).

B. Countering transnational organized crime

1. United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto

36. Within the framework of its thematic programme, UNODC continued to assist States in implementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto. In 2015, the Working Group on Firearms of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime held its third meeting on 9 June 2015, the Working Group on International Cooperation held its sixth meeting on 27 and 28 October 2015, the Working Group on Trafficking in Persons held its sixth session from 16 to 18 November 2015, and the Working Group on the Smuggling of Migrants held its third meeting from 18 to 20 November 2015. In addition, the first meeting of the open-ended intergovernmental meeting to explore all options regarding an appropriate and effective review mechanism for the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto was held from 28 to 30 September 2015.

37. During the reporting period, two additional States became parties to the Convention, bringing the total number of parties to 185; four additional States became parties to the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, bringing the total number of parties to 168 and; one additional State became party to the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, bringing the total number of parties to 113.

38. The knowledge management portal known as Sharing Electronic Resources and Laws on Crime (SHERLOC), containing information on legislation implementing the provisions of the Organized Crime Convention and relevant jurisprudence, has been expanded.[2] UNODC is in the process of updating the *Legislative Guides for the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organize Crime and the Protocols thereto*. In addition, pursuant to Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 22/8, a repository on cybercrime was launched in May 2015.

2. Trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants

39. In 2015, through its global programmes on trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants, UNODC delivered over 25 major technical assistance activities, reaching 64 countries and approximately 800 practitioners. The Office also launched a new global project to provide up to 15 countries with significant, tailored assistance over the next four years to develop or enhance national counter-trafficking and counter-smuggling responses.

[2] www.sherloc.unodc.org.

40. UNODC launched three comprehensive technical publications: *The Concept of "Exploitation" in the Trafficking in Persons Protocol*, *The Role of Recruitment Fees and Abusive and Fraudulent Practices of Recruitment Agencies in Trafficking in Persons* and an assessment toolkit on trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal.

41. UNODC also organized and contributed to global events marking the World Day against Trafficking in Persons on 30 July 2015, including a first joint video statement from the principals of the 16-member, system-wide Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons. Furthermore, UNODC, through its role as both secretariat and working member of the Coordination Group, enabled the development and launch of a position paper by the Group on effective remedies for trafficked persons.

42. UNODC continued to manage the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, which in 2015 initiated support of 19 new projects worldwide.

43. In line with Economic and Social Council resolution 2014/23, in 2015, UNODC delivered technical assistance including the organization of two interregional workshops addressing migrant smuggling by sea, involving 19 Member States. Relevant collaboration to ensure increasingly coherent and comprehensive responses by States to the smuggling of migrants included active UNODC engagement in exercises taking stock of all existing efforts related to crisis-related migration and protection at sea.

3. Money-laundering

44. Through its Global Programme against Money-Laundering, Proceeds of Crime and the Financing of Terrorism, UNODC closely cooperated with regional networks to counter money-laundering in Asia and the Pacific, including Central Asia; the Middle East and North Africa; East, West, Central and Southern Africa; and Latin America. UNODC provided assistance to national practitioners and the private sector, such as financial institutions, through its continued mentor programme and promoted national coordination and regional and international cooperation on issues of illicit financial flows.

45. UNODC continued to support the regional networks for asset recovery in Southern and West Africa and in Asia and the Pacific. UNODC developed the "goTrace" software for the secure exchange of information on illicit financial flows and started its deployment in June 2015.

46. The Office also developed a methodology for the disruption of illicit financial flows, focusing on the key vulnerabilities of the business models of drug traffickers and money-laundering networks. A financial disruption workbook was published by UNODC in September 2015.

47. UNODC launched a dialogue with private financial institutions on identifying trends and exchanging information relating to illicit financial flows stemming from trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants at an expert group meeting held in December 2015.

4. Other issues relating to organized crime

48. UNODC and INTERPOL developed a joint action plan, containing activities in priority areas, to address a wide range of organized crime challenges faced by States, including financing of criminal activities, money-laundering, smuggling of migrants, wildlife and forest crime, countering terrorism and border management.

49. UNODC, through its Global Firearms Programme, assisted 20 countries in South America, West Africa and the Sahel in preventing and combating illicit manufacturing and trafficking in firearms, delivering training in investigative and prosecutorial skills to 280 officials from nine countries, in addition to supporting arms collection and control campaigns with civil society and parliamentarians. UNODC collaborated in the establishment of two networks of central authorities and prosecutors, in West Africa and in Central Asia and Southern Caucasus.

50. Through its Global Programme on Cybercrime, UNODC provided technical assistance to countries in South-East Asia, East Africa and Central America to strengthen national capacities in investigating cybercrime. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 69/196, the Office is developing implementation guidelines for criminal justice responses to trafficking in cultural property. Pursuant to Security Council resolution 2199 (2015), UNODC has been collaborating with INTERPOL, the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (UNIDROIT), WCO and the International Council of Museums to prevent illicit trafficking in cultural heritage, and contributed to the twelfth meeting of the INTERPOL Expert Group on Stolen Cultural Property and the third session of the Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property.

51. In line with Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 22/6, UNODC, through its Maritime Crime Programme, continued to provide assistance to States to improve their legal frameworks and criminal justice systems in response to maritime crimes in the Horn of Africa, the Indian Ocean, the Gulf of Guinea and South Asia. The Indian Ocean Forum on Maritime Crime, with its six subgroups on the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons, drug trafficking, piracy and armed robbery, wildlife and forest crime, fisheries crime, and Somali charcoal, was established in 2015 and, with UNODC support, conducted several expert meetings, resulting in concrete actions on coordination and cooperation among coastal States. UNODC continued to provide support to Somalia, including through capacity-building in maritime law enforcement, prison reform and the construction of the Mogadishu Prison and Court Complex.

52. UNODC is strengthening measures to combat match-fixing in sports. In collaboration with the International Olympic Committee, model criminal law provisions are being developed to help States legislate on these issues. A manual for law enforcement agencies and sports organizations to investigate allegations of match-fixing is also being prepared in conjunction with the International Centre for Sport Security. Contributions have been made to help mitigate the risk of corruption in sport at events organized by the International Centre for Sport Security and the Council of Europe.

53. UNODC, through its Global Programme for Combating Wildlife and Forest Crime, continued to provide a number of different capacity-building technical assistance initiatives to States and undertook a number of criminal justice and

preventive capacity assessments, namely in Botswana, the Congo, Mexico and Viet Nam. Technical assistance was also provided in the use of wildlife forensics, the establishment of investigative and intelligence units, the review of legislative frameworks, improvement in crime scene management, the use of anti-money-laundering techniques, the prevention of corruption, and training investigators and prosecutors in case management and presentation.

C. Countering corruption

54. The Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption at its sixth session, held in Saint Petersburg, Russian Federation, from 2 to 6 November 2015, agreed on the unprecedented number of 10 resolutions that significantly advance international efforts against corruption. The Conference decided to launch the second cycle of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption and adopted important resolutions on building public-private partnerships in the fight against corruption, strengthening international asset recovery efforts, enhancing preventive action and expanding international cooperation in civil and administrative proceedings within the framework of the Convention. The Implementation Review Group held its sixth session from 1 to 5 June 2015 and its resumed sixth session on the margins of the Conference's sixth session. The Working Group on the Prevention of Corruption held a meeting from 31 August to 2 September 2015, and the Working Group on Asset Recovery held a meeting on 3 and 4 September 2015. The Implementation Review Mechanism completed the last year of its first cycle; to date, over 160 self-assessment checklists have been received, nearly 150 country visits and joint meetings have been conducted, and over 120 executive summaries of review reports have been completed.

55. UNODC continued to provide a broad set of tailored technical assistance activities at the global, regional and national levels, including in support of the preparation for and the follow-up to the country reviews. Examples of technical assistance activities include incorporating provisions of the Convention into national legislation, establishing and strengthening national institutional and policy frameworks to counter corruption, building capacity to prevent, investigate and prosecute corruption, and promoting international cooperation, including South-South cooperation. The UNODC network of national and regional anti-corruption advisers played a key role in delivering technical assistance. Through the advisers, UNODC has been able to provide rapidly deployable professional expertise to facilitate the delivery of on-site guidance and advice to States parties requesting assistance.

56. The joint UNODC-World Bank Stolen Asset Recovery (StAR) Initiative continued to provide general and case-related technical assistance, supported policy work in the context of the Group of 20 (G-20) and the Conference of the States Parties and its Working Group on Asset Recovery, to develop knowledge products and tools and support the networking of asset recovery practitioners. In carrying out a mandate from the Conference's fifth session, UNODC continued, under its joint initiative with the Region of Calabria, to advance the identification and dissemination of good practices in the management, use and disposal of seized and confiscated assets and is currently developing a compilation of experiences and

good practices. As an observer to the G-20, UNODC raised awareness about the importance and benefits of ratifying the Convention at the meetings of the G-20 Anti-Corruption Working Group, as well as at the Fifth Annual High-Level Anti-Corruption Conference for G-20 Governments and Business.

57. The legal documentation compiled throughout the review process has been used to update the legal library of the Tools and Resources for Anti-Corruption Knowledge (TRACK) portal.[3] At the Conference's sixth session, two new knowledge products were presented: *National Anti-Corruption Strategies: A Practical Guide for the Development and Implementation* and the *Resource Guide on Good Practices in the Protection of Reporting Persons*. UNODC also published its *Digest of Asset Recovery Cases*.

58. The Anti-Corruption Academic Initiative held two regional and two global workshops and, in cooperation with the Moscow State Institute of International Relations and the Rule of Law and Anti-Corruption Centre in Doha, organized an academic symposium in Moscow to discuss key issues related to the Convention against Corruption.

59. UNODC increased its efforts to help States and sports organizations in fighting corruption and organized crime in sport, and was mandated by the Conference at its sixth session to enhance its efforts in this regard.

D. Terrorism prevention

60. During the reporting period, UNODC, through its Terrorism Prevention Branch, continued to implement its mandated activities on terrorism prevention in line with the relevant United Nations resolutions. The Office continued to promote the ratification and supported the implementation of 19 international legal instruments to prevent and counter terrorism as a key priority, to provide legal assistance for the review and drafting of national counter-terrorism legislation, and to build the capacity of criminal justice systems to effectively respond to terrorism, including newly emerging challenges related to terrorism.

61. UNODC continued to mainstream human rights in all aspects of its counter-terrorism work, thus strengthening Member States' capacity to apply international human rights norms. The use of the training module entitled *Human Rights and Criminal Justice Responses to Terrorism* and its adaptation to the specificities of some States was instrumental, for example in Kenya and Nigeria.

62. UNODC, supported by its network of field experts, further intensified counter-terrorism technical assistance to countries in Central, South, South-East and West Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, Nigeria, the Middle East and North Africa, the Pacific subregion, South-Eastern Europe, the Sahel region and the Horn of Africa. 2015 was marked by the successful completion of several multi-year technical assistance programmes, including a programme for Nigeria funded by the European Union and delivered jointly with the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate; a project in Colombia using mock trials to provide training on countering the financing of terrorism; and the programme for eight countries

[3] www.track.unodc.org/Pages/home.aspx.

members of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation on effective counter-terrorism investigations and prosecutions, which included two train-the-trainer initiatives for India and Pakistan. UNODC also made good progress in reaching out to parliamentarians, including through seminars hosted by national parliaments and the strengthening of cooperation with the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean and the Inter-Parliamentary Union. UNODC provided legislative assistance to Somalia to review their counter-terrorism bill, in partnership with UNDP.

63. Legal advisory services and capacity-building activities aimed at ensuring that children associated with terrorist groups are protected by the national criminal justice system have been provided to Cameroon, Chad, Libya, the Niger and Nigeria.

64. In response to recent Security Council and General Assembly resolutions related to terrorism and violent extremism, as well as increasing requests for assistance by Member States with regard to ongoing and new challenges in these areas, UNODC, through its Terrorism Prevention Branch, has further strengthened its legal and capacity-building work. In particular, it has redoubled the efforts to support national criminal justice officials and policymakers, including parliamentarians, to more effectively address the emerging challenges related to terrorism, such as the phenomenon of the foreign terrorist fighters, the growing nexus between terrorism and transnational organized crime, violent extremism and radicalization. On the issue of foreign terrorist fighters, UNODC, in partnership with the European Union and other donors, has launched a major technical assistance initiative on strengthening the legal regime against foreign terrorist fighters in the Middle East and North Africa and in Balkan countries. Similar assistance was commenced for the countries of Central and South-East Asia and the Sahel.

65. The Office continued to develop specialized legal knowledge in several thematic areas, including by finalizing two new publications: a publication on good practices for supporting victims of terrorism within a criminal justice framework, produced pursuant to General Assembly resolution 68/178, and a module on the international legal framework against chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear terrorism. To promote the entry into force of the 2005 Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, UNODC, jointly with the International Atomic Energy Agency, organized a conference held in Vienna on 28 and 29 October 2015.

66. Throughout 2015, UNODC further strengthened its cooperation with entities participating in the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, including the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, by enhancing coordination of joint efforts to prevent and combat terrorism.

E. Crime prevention and criminal justice

67. Through its thematic programme and several regional programmes, UNODC strengthens the rule of law through crime prevention and the promotion of effective, fair, humane and accountable criminal justice systems.

68. In the area of normative development, the Office convened the fourth meeting of the Expert Group on the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, held in Cape Town, South Africa, from 2 to 5 March 2015. At the meeting, experts finalized the revised text of the Rules, which, upon the recommendation of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, were approved by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 2015/20 and were subsequently adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/175 as the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules). In that resolution, the Assembly also decided to extend the scope of Nelson Mandela International Day observed each year on 18 July, which was also to be utilized to promote humane conditions of imprisonment, raise awareness about prisoners being a continuous part of society and value the work of prison staff as a social service of particular importance.

69. Furthermore, UNODC, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and UNDP presented a study on sexual violence against women and girls in India, Thailand and Viet Nam, where UNODC helped to develop a violence prevention curriculum to train judges and lawyers. In Myanmar, UNODC trained prison officials and supported the development of a law on legal aid. In China, UNODC supported policymakers and practitioners in promoting legal aid.

70. UNODC also strengthened responses to violence against women and violence against children, including through a newly developed joint Global Programme on Essential Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence and the UNODC-United Nations Children's Fund Global Programme on Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

71. In Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan and Pakistan, the Office continued its support for criminal justice reform initiatives with a strong focus on legislative reform and strengthening prison and police management. An evaluation revealed that UNODC assistance in Kyrgyzstan was of high relevance and quality and showed good progress and prospects for sustainability. UNODC started expanding its work on crime prevention and criminal justice reform to other countries in Central Asia.

72. UNODC organized an event on use of force and firearms for the Middle East and North Africa region. Programmes on criminal justice reform continued in Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya and Tunisia. Advisory services and capacity-building activities were also provided to a number of countries in the Gulf region, in particular Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates.

73. UNODC continued supporting countries in East and West Africa through its regional programmes and its maritime crime programme, focusing on reforming the entire criminal justice chain through police reform and capacity-building for law enforcement agencies, prosecution services, courts and prisons, in order to ensure fair and efficient trials and secure and humane imprisonment. UNODC contributed to the United Nations integrated strategy for the Sahel, providing assistance on legal aid, issues concerning victims and witnesses and prison reform. In Chad and the Niger, progress was made in prison reform. UNODC strengthened its partnership with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and UNDP in the framework of the global focal point for the police, justice and corrections areas of the rule of law in post-conflict and other crisis situations, in particular in Mali.

74. In Latin America and the Caribbean, UNODC facilitated the ongoing transition towards the adversarial legal system in Mexico and Panama and continued to expand projects on prison reform, such as in the Plurinational State of Bolivia, and on justice for children, such as in Colombia.

75. Technical assistance tools developed during the reporting period include the publication *Combating Violence against Migrants: Criminal Justice Measures to Prevent, Investigate, Prosecute and Punish Violence against Migrants, Migrant Workers and Their Families and to Protect Victims*, developed together with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, a publication on the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules) with a commentary, the *Training Curriculum on Women and Imprisonment*, an information note for criminal justice practitioners on non-custodial measures for women offenders, and an introductory booklet entitled *Planning the Implementation of the United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice; A Checklist*. The Office also advanced work on new and updated tools, such as handbooks on the management of high-risk prisoners, dynamic security in prisons, the use of force by law enforcement officials, and a global study and model legislation on legal aid.

F. Research, trend analysis and scientific and forensic support

1. Data collection, research and trend analysis

76. The *World Drug Report 2015* highlighted recent trends and emerging issues regarding the global drug situation, including gender aspects of drug use and a review of the effectiveness of drug use prevention and treatment. The *World Drug Report 2015* also presented an in-depth analysis of alternative development, especially in the context of the development agenda, aimed at providing farmers with alternative livelihoods.

77. The Office continued to provide technical assistance and support to Member States in the implementation of measures against drug use, crime victimization, corruption and access to justice surveys and the development of indicators for the global monitoring progress on Sustainable Development Goals 3, 5, 15 and 16.

78. UNODC and its national partners conducted surveys on illicit crop cultivation in Afghanistan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Colombia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mexico, Myanmar and Peru. The illicit crop monitoring programme is increasingly embedded in a broader analysis of the conditions in which farmers cultivate illicit crops.

79. UNODC published the report *Afghan Opiate Trafficking through the Southern Route*, providing a comprehensive analysis on drug trafficking routes and trends, from Afghanistan through the southern route to a number of regions including the Middle East, South and South-East Asia, Oceania, Africa and Europe.

80. UNODC also started to develop guidelines and provide technical support to Member States interested in implementing the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes.

81. A global wildlife seizure database has been established and the preparation of a series of in-depth case studies to describe the nature and scope of illicit trafficking in protected species of wild fauna and flora is ongoing.

82. In 2015, UNODC started the collection of global data on trafficking for the next edition of the global report on trafficking in persons, to be published at the end of 2016.

2. Scientific and forensic support

83. The UNODC scientific and forensic services programme made significant achievements in quality assurance normative activities, assisting 200 national laboratories in 60 countries, a 10 per cent increase in 12 months. Laboratories participating in the UNODC international quality assurance programme were provided with over 3,200 units of reference standards of controlled substances, and direct assistance to support interdiction capacity included the provision of 379 drug and precursor field testing kits and related training.

84. Pursuant to the scheduling decisions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in March 2015, UNODC supported implementation by Member States through the development and dissemination of recommended laboratory methods of analysis of the recently controlled substances, the provision of chemical reference materials, and the revision of the *Multilingual Dictionary of Precursors and Chemicals Frequently Used in the Illicit Manufacture of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances under International Control* and the *Terminology and Information on Drugs*.

85. Under its global Synthetics Monitoring: Analysis, Reporting and Trends (SMART) programme, UNODC continued to monitor, analyse and share information on new psychoactive substances at the global level with its early warning advisory on new psychoactive substances being actively used by States and international organizations, such as WHO, in the context of the scheduling discussions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

86. Plans have been prepared to implement Commission resolution 58/7 by strengthening cooperation with the scientific community and promoting the use of scientific research in supply reduction policies, including through the holding in Vienna in 2016, subject to availability of funding, of an international expert group meeting with a focus on emerging substances of abuse.

IV. Strengthening the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

A. Strategic planning

87. In 2015, UNODC prepared an annual report providing an overview of the work of UNODC across the globe in assisting Member States to address the threats posed by transnational organized crime, drugs, illicit trafficking, corruption and terrorism during 2014. The *UNODC Annual Report 2014* reflects the forward-looking strategy that places UNODC efforts within Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Office continued to

enhance the alignment between the normative and operational pillars of its work through an integrated programming approach, stressing a results-based focus. The UNODC programme review committee continued to provide a senior interdivisional forum for review and guidance, as well as for ensuring complementarity between global and regional and country programmes which are implemented in close cooperation with United Nations partners and key stakeholders. Additionally, the Office continued to implement the recommendations of oversight bodies with regard to results-based management.

B. Evaluation

88. UNODC issued a new evaluation policy, developed in close consultation with Member States. The policy requires full evaluation coverage of UNODC projects and programmes and requires accountability and evaluation to be further mainstreamed in the Organization. In 2015, a meta-analysis of more than 90 evaluations from 2011-2014 was finalized.

89. Eleven in-depth evaluations of regional, country and global programmes were finalized and disseminated. In addition, a portfolio management database of all the evaluations of all UNODC projects and programmes was developed, as was a knowledge management database of the recommendations, lessons learned and findings of all evaluations conducted since January 2011.

90. Evaluation findings and recommendations have been regularly presented to the Executive Director, the senior management of UNODC and Member States, thereby contributing to the UNODC culture of accountability and evaluation.

91. The efforts of oversight bodies, such as the Office of Internal Oversight Services, the Board of Auditors and the Joint Inspection Unit have been supported in the pursuit of coordinated oversight action. In addition, UNODC has participated as an active member in the United Nations Evaluation Group, preparing for the ongoing professional peer review of the evaluation function at UNODC, being undertaken by the task force of the Network on Development Evaluation of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Development Assistance Committee and the United Nations Evaluation Group.

C. Finance and partnerships

92. UNODC continued to support the meetings of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of UNODC by providing information on progress made in the implementation by UNODC of its thematic, global and regional programmes, updates on the strategic framework for the periods 2016-2017 and 2018-2019, the evaluation of UNODC programmes, and matters related to the UNODC consolidated budget for the biennium 2016-2017.

93. The financial situation of UNODC remains vulnerable. The decline in unearmarked funds persists: in 2015, general-purpose income is predicted to fall to a mere 1.7 per cent of total income. UNODC continues with the implementation of its funding model, based on a system of full cost recovery, in order to achieve

transparency and sustainability of its programme delivery. However, the continuing decline in general-purpose funds hinders the ability of UNODC to strategically manage its operations, improve management processes, exercise effective corporate oversight and launch new initiatives and programmes.

94. In the period 2014-2015, UNODC launched major initiatives to strengthen the accountability, transparency, effectiveness and efficiency of programme execution and the utilization of donor funding.

95. A United Nations Secretariat-wide enterprise resource planning system (Umoja) was rolled out at UNODC headquarters in Vienna and at the field offices in November 2015. It covers extensive administrative, programme management and self-service functionalities. Furthermore, the first financial statements that comply with the International Public Sector Accounting Standards were issued for the year 2014, and the comprehensive framework of engagement of external parties, covering end-to-end processes for managing grants and implementing partnerships, was set up.

96. The final projections of the consolidated budget of UNODC for the biennium 2014-2015 totalled $760.1 million, of which 7.2 per cent came from regular budget funds and 92.8 per cent from extrabudgetary resources.

97. Pledges for voluntary contributions in 2015 were estimated at approximately $250 million, and the largest donors included Australia, Canada, Colombia, Denmark, the European Union, Japan, Norway, Panama, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, as well as UNAIDS.

98. General-purpose funding (excluding interest and miscellaneous income) is projected to reach $11.5 million for the biennium, including $4.3 million at the end of 2015 (compared with $9.5 million in 2013). General-purpose funds were provided exclusively by the following donors: Afghanistan, Austria, Bangladesh, Chile, China, Finland, Germany, India, Japan, Kuwait, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Pakistan, Panama, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Singapore, Sweden, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates and United States. Significant cost-sharing of the local support budget was provided by Brazil, Mexico and Panama.

99. Regarding the private sector, UNODC continued its efforts to raise funds in support of the United Nations Blue Heart campaign, as well as UNODC activities in areas such anti-corruption, juvenile justice, the prevention of substance abuse and family life skills.

V. Recommendations

100. The Commissions may wish to provide further guidance, in the context of their respective mandates, and consider requesting Member States to implement the recommendations below.

Prevention, treatment and reintegration, and alternative development

101. The Commissions may wish to consider requesting Member States:

(a) To work towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by increasing the coverage and quality of evidence-based drug prevention and treatment measures in line with the International Standards on Drug Use Prevention and the international standards on the treatment of drug use disorders;

(b) To offer evidence-based and voluntary treatment, care, rehabilitation and full reintegration in the community as an alternative to conviction or punishment to individuals who possess, purchase or cultivate drugs for personal consumption;

(c) To promote access to controlled substances for medical purposes;

(d) To manage the response to drug use disorders and their health consequences, without discrimination or stigmatization, with standards of the same level of quality as those applied for the prevention and treatment of any other chronic disease;

(e) To fast-track HIV/AIDS responses among people who use drugs and people in prisons to reach the sustainable development target of ending the AIDS epidemic as a public health threat by 2030 by promoting human rights, public health and justice;

(f) To integrate the interventions outlined in the policy brief by UNODC, WHO, UNAIDS, the International Labour Organization and UNDP entitled "HIV prevention, treatment and care in prisons and other closed settings: a comprehensive package of interventions" into national plans and programmes addressing drug use, AIDS and tuberculosis, and allocate resources for the implementation and scaling-up of those plans and programmes;

(g) To include the interventions of a WHO/UNODC/UNAIDS comprehensive package for people who inject drugs in national HIV and drug strategies, and strengthen their provision to drug control and law enforcement agencies, ministries of justice, interior and health, and civil society organizations.

Countering transnational organized crime

102. The Commissions may wish to consider requesting Member States:

(a) To adopt an integrated response to tackling transnational organized crime through inter-agency information-sharing, coordination and operational cooperation in border management and to streamline communication among national central authorities in responding to requests for mutual legal assistance in criminal matters;

(b) To encourage the regular exchange of information, good practices and cooperation between competent firearms control authorities and specialized criminal justice practitioners in preventing and combating illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, and their links to other organized and serious crimes;

(c) To support authorities in cooperating in a timely manner to combat money-laundering and for the recovery of proceeds and assets derived from illicit trafficking and related organized crime through information-sharing, the

promulgation of money-laundering typologies and the identification and location of assets and property;

(d) To review and strengthen their national policies and frameworks from a crime prevention and criminal justice perspective and to improve international cooperation in combating all forms of transnational organized crime;

(e) To continue to support efforts to strengthen the knowledge and capacity of their competent authorities in dealing with new and emerging forms of crime, such as cybercrime and trafficking in cultural property by, inter alia, submitting examples of national legislation and jurisprudence to UNODC for inclusion in SHERLOC.

Countering corruption

103. The Commissions may wish to consider requesting Member States:

(a) To support UNODC in the implementation of the mandates provided by the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption at its sixth session;

(b) To continue to support the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the Convention against Corruption and contribute to the preparations for its second cycle, which was launched at the sixth session of the Conference of the States Parties;

(c) To continue to support the work of UNODC, both at headquarters and in the field, to assist States in preventing and combating corruption.

Terrorism prevention

104. The Commissions may wish to consider the following:

(a) Encourage Member States to ratify and implement the 19 international conventions and protocols related to counter-terrorism, including by strengthening international cooperation mechanisms in criminal matters, with assistance from UNODC, as required;

(b) Encourage Member States to utilize the capacity-building assistance provided by UNODC to strengthen their criminal justice systems, including with regard to the new emerging threats such as foreign terrorist fighters and their radicalization, links between terrorism and transnational organized crime, kidnapping for ransom and the destruction of cultural heritage by terrorists;

(c) Encourage Member States to continue to provide resources for the implementation of the UNODC terrorism prevention programme.

Crime prevention and criminal justice

105. The Commissions may wish to consider requesting Member States:

(a) To urgently address prison overcrowding by reducing the scope of imprisonment, strengthening prison management and supporting the social reintegration of offenders and the prevention of recidivism in line with the United Nations standards and norms related to the treatment of prisoners and alternatives to imprisonment;

(b) To accord high priority and allocate appropriate resources to penal reform in line with the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, taking the prison system as a starting point, as it is an area where pertinent deficiencies of a criminal justice system accumulate, following which priority reform steps in the entire criminal justice system can be identified;

(c) To adopt an evidence-based, comprehensive and integrated approach to crime prevention and criminal justice reform that is based on an understanding of the root causes of crime, responds to the concerns of citizens, builds the resilience of local communities and focuses on all sectors of the justice system, taking into account the needs and rights of women, children and vulnerable groups.

Research, trend analysis and scientific and forensic support

106. The Commissions may wish to consider requesting Member States:

(a) To strengthen the capacity of national authorities to collect accurate, reliable and comparable data on crime and illicit drug production, trafficking and use, with a view to increasing the capacity to respond to mandated data collection tools such as the crime trends survey, the *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons*, the annual report questionnaire and the biannual drug seizure reports;

(b) To strengthen national data collection capacity to monitor progress towards achieving the goals of Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, especially in the fields of drug use and its health consequences, organized crime, trafficking in persons, corruption, illicit financial flows, rule of law and access to justice;

(c) To further support UNODC to strengthen the analytical work of laboratories and ensure high standards by providing reference materials including new psychoactive substances, identifying best practices, developing guidelines and research, and facilitating the exchange of laboratory data to enable timely response to emerging issues;

(d) To support the efforts of UNODC in monitoring the emergence of new psychoactive substances at the global level through the UNODC early warning advisory on new psychoactive substances;

(e) To endorse the UNODC world wildlife seizures database and to mandate UNODC to produce periodic reports on wildlife crime.

Integrated programming, strategic planning and evaluation

107. The Commissions may wish to consider requesting Member States:

(a) To support the integration of the activities of UNODC under the three pillars of the United Nations — development, peace and security, and human rights — as a key requirement for the effective implementation of Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

(b) To support a global effort for reducing crime and insecurity at the city level, as part of the United Nations effort in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the local level and to facilitate the exchange of best practices and innovative measures between cities located in different regions;

(c) To strengthen UNODC investments in evaluation at all levels, through the provision of adequate resources to ensure sustainability in building a culture of accountability;

(d) To engage in building national capacity for evaluation and accountability within the mandated areas of UNODC, in line with General Assembly resolution 69/237.

Finance and partnerships

108. The Commissions may wish to consider requesting Member States:

(a) To provide UNODC with adequate, predictable and stable resources, including additional regular budget resources, to enable it to implement its mandated work in a sustainable manner;

(b) To provide greater general purpose (i.e., unearmarked) and soft-earmarked funding in order to enable the Office to effectively respond to the increasing demand for technical assistance and to continue its technical cooperation with regional bodies and partner countries worldwide;

(c) To create an environment that facilitates greater engagement with all relevant stakeholders, including, as appropriate, civil society and private sector.